

Historic, Archive Document

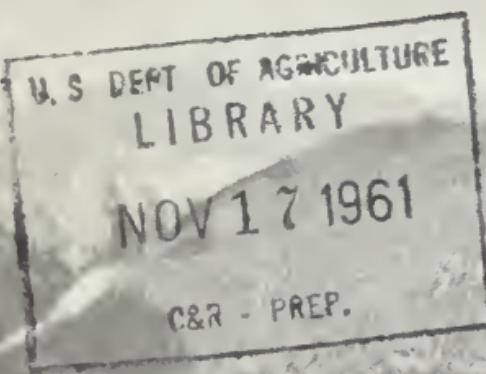
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

CARSON

NATIONAL FOREST

NEW MEXICO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ★ FOREST SERVICE - SOUTHWESTERN REGION



RED RIVER

CARSON NATIONAL FOREST

NATIONAL FOREST

NEW MEXICO

CARSON NATIONAL FOREST

NEW MEXICO

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE • FOREST SERVICE • SOUTHWESTERN REGION

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE • FOREST SERVICE • SOUTHWESTERN REGION

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY NOV 17 1961

U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE LIBRARY NOV 17 1961

RED RIVER

RED RIVER

YOU'LL FIND YEAR 'ROUND OUTDOOR RECREATION IN NEW MEXICO'S HIGH COUNTRY!

Whatever your taste in outdoor recreation, the Carson National Forest can probably satisfy it. People come to this National Forest for picnicking, camping, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, nature study, skiing, or just for the quiet enjoyment of the scenery. All of these wholesome outdoor activities are increasing. Recreation visits to the Carson National Forest have tripled since 1950, and it is clear that outdoor recreation has become a valuable National Forest use.

To keep pace with this phenomenal increase, the Forest Service is pushing ahead with its "Operation Outdoors Program." The goal of this program is to provide recreation, cleanup and care at existing recreation sites, and to provide new sites and facilities to take care of increases expected within the next few years.

The Carson contains the Wheeler Peak Wild Area and part of the famed Pecos Wilderness Area. There have been established by the Forest Service so that those able and willing to hike, ride a horse or pack into rugged mountain

The Carson National Forest, like all National Forests, is administered by the Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture, on a multiple use management and sustained yield basis. This means that the water, recreation, wildlife, timber, and range resources of the Carson are managed so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people now, and in the future.

Named in honor of Kit Carson, the famous scout, the Carson National Forest offers some of the most spectacular mountain scenery in the Southwest, including the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, Red River Canyon and Wheeler Peak which at 13,160 feet is the highest point in New Mexico. In addition to its many scenic attractions, this publicly owned forest possesses some of the highest water-producing land in the State and is the source of several permanent streams and lakes. For centuries, the Carson's streams have furnished irriga-

country can always enjoy the renewal of spirit, majestic scenery, and wilderness camping and hunting afforded by high forests and peaks practically untouched by man. With the exception of livestock grazing, road, motorized travel, logging, mining and other commercial developments are not permitted in wilderness.

The Red River Ski Area, Sipapu Winter Sports Area and Taos Ski Valley operate in part on the Carson National Forest and offer some of the finest alpine skiing in the Southwest. Thousands of visitors from all over the country come to see the unique northern New Mexico valley in and adjacent to the Carson National Forest. Not far from Canjilon on U. S. 84 is the outstanding Goshen Ranch Museum with fine Southwest Indian artifacts and conservation exhibits including a display showing the Forest Service Multiple Use Management of the mythical Beaver National Forest. Elsewhere in this Southern Rockies are ancient Spanish missions, quaint farm villages, Indian Pueblos, ghost towns and evidence of Indian history on every hand.

tion and domestic water for thousands of people in the Rio Grande Valley and the small agricultural communities in and adjacent to the National Forest.

Recreation is the fastest growing and one of the most important uses of the Carson. Outdoor recreation of all kinds is encouraged and the Forest Service under its "Operation Outdoors Program" has developed a number of free camp and picnic grounds for public use and enjoyment. Trails are available for hikers and horseback riders and three winter sports areas serve the needs of skiing enthusiasts. For the more rugged forest users, the Pecos Wilderness Area and the Wheeler Peak Wild Area afford opportunities to explore places where primitive conditions are maintained.

One of the great public fishing and hunting grounds in the West—that's the Carson National Forest! Its many trout-filled streams and crystal clear lakes are a delight to the heart of any angler. Big game hunting in season affords deer, elk, antelope and bear. Game birds include turkey, grouse, ducks, geese, quail and doves.

The National Forest has over 600,000 acres of commercial timberland that is managed under scientific forestry practices to provide perpetual crops of timber. This insures the permanency of sawmills and communities dependent on the Carson for their supply of timber.

Grazing of cattle and sheep is a permitted use and many ranchers and their families look to National Forest grazing for an important part of their livelihood.

Management of the Carson's 1,225,408 acres is under the direction of the Forest Supervisor headquartered at Taos. The National Forest is divided into 7 Ranger Districts with a professionally trained Forest Ranger in charge of each district. Ranger Stations are located at Canjilon, El Rito, Farmington, Penasco, Questa, Taos and Tres Piedras. The Forest Ranger, who is the "keyman" in the Forest Service organization, is responsible for the on-the-ground management of all activities in his District. The Supervisor and Rangers welcome you to the Carson and hope you will enjoy your visit. Please be careful with fire and be sure to leave a clean campground.



• Wheeler Peak Wild Area.



• Heart Lake — high in the Sangre de Cristo.



• Skiing at Taos on the Carson.



• Everybody enjoys a picnic.



• Load of logs leaving the National Forest.

• Camping at Lower Canjilon Lake.

• Fishing is good on the Rio Pueblo.

• Horseback riding is fun.

• Indian dance at Taos Pueblo.

• Forest Ranger explains map to visitor.

• Echo Amphitheater Picnic Ground.

LIVESTOCK GRAZING

Strange as it may seem, the steaks or lamb chops you enjoyed recently may have come from animals that once grazed on the Carson National Forest. Not far from Canjilon on U. S. 84 is the outstanding Goshen Ranch Museum with fine Southwest Indian artifacts and conservation exhibits including a display showing the Forest Service Multiple Use Management of the mythical Beaver National Forest.

Elsewhere in this Southern Rockies are ancient Spanish missions, quaint farm villages, Indian Pueblos, ghost towns and evidence of Indian history on every hand.

Grazing is one of the principal uses of the National Forest and approximately 9,800 cattle and 39,600 sheep graze under paid permits held by a total of 750 individuals and companies. Carson National Forest grazing is managed to keep the number of cattle and sheep in balance with available feed, to insure larger crops of forage, to stabilize the soil, and to prevent excessive water runoff.

The National Forest is divided into 136 grazing allotments and the individual permittees are assigned definite areas in which their livestock are authorized to graze. Management plans prepared by the Forest Service in cooperation with the permittees are in effect on most allotments. These specify the number and kind of livestock to be grazed, rolling, and other practices that will permit proper utilization of the forage resource but without impairment of the productivity of the soil or its vegetative cover. All of the Carson's grazing allotments produce crops of water, wood, and wildlife, and the Forest Ranger supervises the range to insure that grazing is in harmony with these other important uses.

Where range has been overused in the past, the National Forest's objective is to rehabilitate rangelands through better management, re-creeding, development of stock water, fencing, and juniper, sagebrush, and piñon plant control. Permittees cooperate with the Forest Service in management and construction and maintenance of range improvements.

The need for livestock products is increasing. The consumption of meat, for example, is expected to double by the end of the century. The Carson National Forest will do its share to help satisfy this demand.

Sheep grow fat on the Carson.



WILDLIFE

If you like to fish, hunt, or observe wildlife, chances are you will find the Carson National Forest to your liking. Its 260 miles of cold mountain streams and high mountain lakes offer the best in trout fishing. Species include rainbow, cutthroat, brown, German brown and native trout. Among the more popular fishing streams are the Los Juncos, Santa Barbara, El Rito, Vallecillo, Turquoise, Rio Pueblo, Rio Hondo, Red River, Rio San Antonio and Rio Grande. Laguna Larga, Hopewell, Cabriero, Trout, Canjilon and Los Lunas lakes are accessible by road. For those who enjoy fishing in primitive surroundings, trails lead to Trampas, Heart, Williams, Horsehoe, Latil, Bear and Upper Canjilon Lakes.

The Carson National Forest provides food and homes for wildlife of all kinds. The Rocky Mountain mule deer is the most numerous big game animal and is found in all parts of the Forest. Elk can be seen everywhere except in the extreme western portion of the Forest near Farmington.

Antelope roam the lower country near San Antonio and black bear are scattered throughout the Forest.

Small game is plentiful and rabbits provide many hours of hunting pleasure. Beaver, mink, marten, weasel, martin and ruffed grouse are the principal fur-bearers and turkey, grouse, ducks, geese, quail and doves make up the Forest's game bird population. Predators include the mountain lion, bobcat, coyote and fox.

Wildlife is a renewable natural resource just like grass and trees. It is a resource which must be managed so as to keep numbers in balance with available food supplies. This requires teamwork between the U. S. Forest Service and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. The Forest Service is responsible for managing the fish and wildlife habitat on the National Forest and the State is legally responsible for the management and protection of wild animals. Thus, joint State-Forest Service action is the key to effective wildlife management on the National Forest.

FIRE

In dry periods, from spring to late fall, all the values of the Carson National Forest are under threat of destruction by lightning or man-caused fire. To combat this menace, especially trained forest fire-fighting crews have been organized.

The Carson area is the home of four of the famed Southwestern Region's apportioned fire-fighting crews: the "Cub" of Quarto, the "Lion" of El Rito, and the "Tartug" (Turtle) of Penasco, all Spanish-American crews from small towns within or near the Forest; the fourth crew is the Taos "Snowballs," the Indian group from Taos Pueblo. These men emerge from their 18th Century Spanish farm villages or their 1000-year-old adobe apartment houses to travel by bus or commercial airline to any part of the country where their skill and stamina or later fire-fighters are needed.

A great forest can be destroyed by a moment of thoughtlessness or indifference on the part of anyone. It's up to all of us, every forest user, to protect our National Forests from man-caused fire.



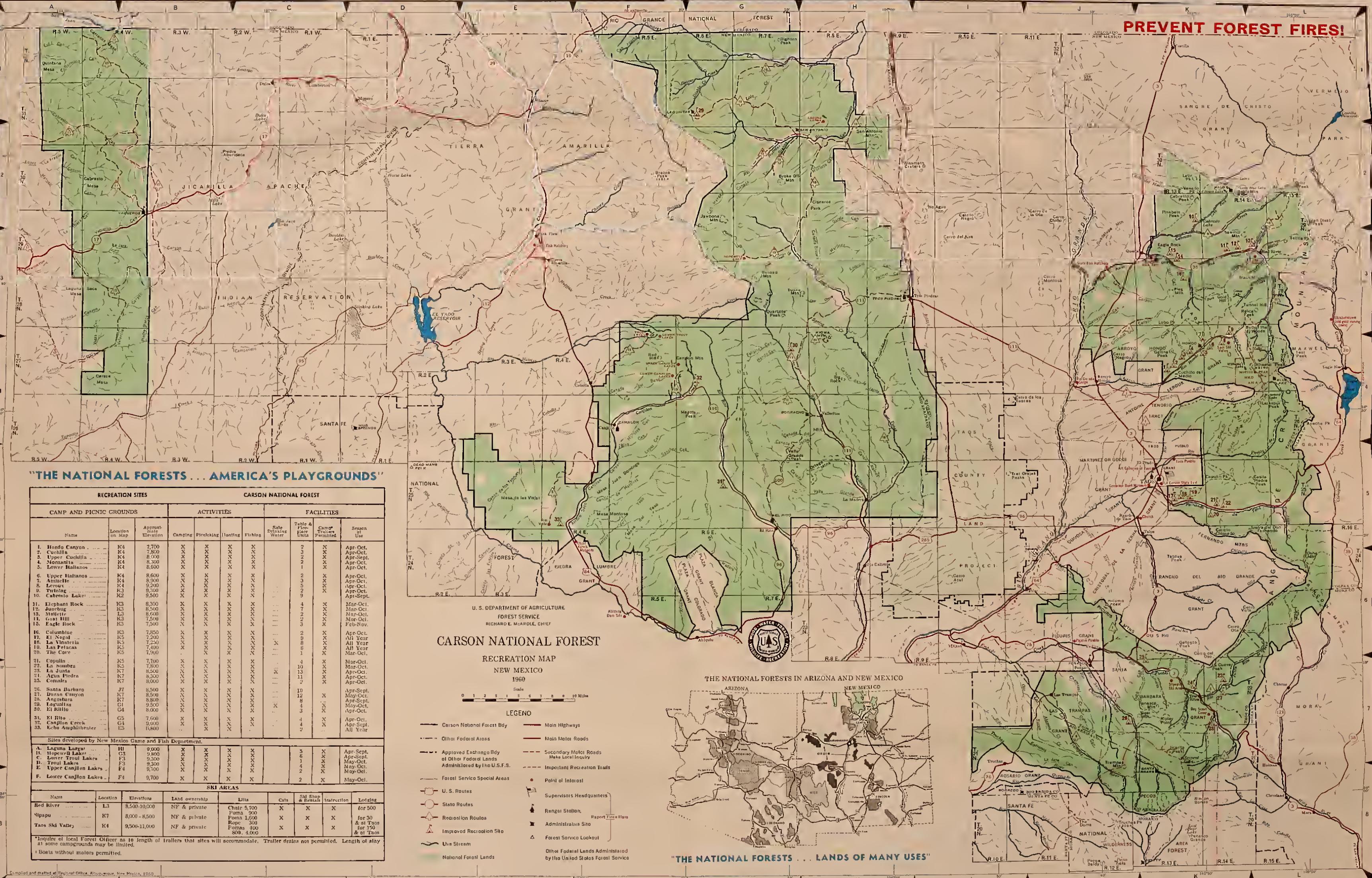
Smokey says:

1. CRUSH OUT YOUR SMOKES!
2. BREAK YOUR MATCHES IN TWO!
3. DROWN YOUR CAMPFIRES!
4. BE CAREFUL WITH EVERY FIRE!



• Oil and gas exploration, Carson National Forest, near Farmington.

PREVENT FOREST FIRES!



A99.61
F769C

URSON

NATIONAL FOREST

NEW MEXICO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ★ FOREST SERVICE - SOUTHWESTERN REGION



RED RIVER